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| CATEGORY | **4** | **3** | **2** | **1** |
| **Characters** | The main characters are named and clearly described in text as well as pictures. Most readers could describe the characters accurately. | The main characters are named and described. Most readers would have some idea of what the characters looked like. | The main characters are named. The reader knows very little about the characters. | It is hard to tell who the main characters are. |
| **Setting** | Many vivid, descriptive words are used to tell when and where the story took place. | Some vivid, descriptive words are used to tell the audience when and where the story took place. | The reader can figure out when and where the story took place, but the author didn't supply much detail. | The reader has trouble figuring out when and where the story took place. |
| **Problem/Conflict** | It is very easy for the reader to understand the problem the main characters face and why it is a problem. | It is fairly easy for the reader to understand the problem the main characters face and why it is a problem. | It is fairly easy for the reader to understand the problem the main characters face but it is not clear why it is a problem. | It is not clear what problem the main characters face. |
| **Moral** | The moral is clearly stated and relates directly to the events of the fable. | The moral is easy to understand is somewhat related to the events of the fable. | The moral and its relationship to the fable is a little hard to understand. | No moral is attempted or it is impossible to understand. |
| **Spelling and Punctuation** | There are no spelling or punctuation errors in the final draft. Character and place names that the author invented are spelled consistently throughout. | There is one spelling or punctuation error in the final draft. | There are 2-3 spelling and punctuation errors in the final draft. | The final draft has more than 3 spelling and punctuation errors. |
| **Creativity** | The story contains many creative details and/or descriptions that contribute to the reader's enjoyment. The author has really used his imagination. | The story contains a few creative details and/or descriptions that contribute to the reader's enjoyment. The author has used his imagination. | The story contains a few creative details and/or descriptions, but they distract from the story. The author has tried to use his imagination. | There is little evidence of creativity in the story. The author does not seem to have used much imagination. |
| **Dialogue** | There is an appropriate amount of dialogue to bring the characters to life and it is always clear which character is speaking. | There is too much dialogue in this story, but it is always clear which character is speaking. | There is not quite enough dialogue in this story, but it is always clear which character is speaking. | It is not clear which character is speaking |